

RECORDS RELATING TO JAPAN AMONG THE
CENTRAL FILE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE (RG 59) 1910-73:
A SELECTED LIST

The following is an overview of the most important files pertaining to Japanese international political relations and Japanese political, military, and economic matters. It is not comprehensive and intended merely as a starting point for research. Researchers undertaking a major study of this topic should be certain to examine appropriate finding aids within RG 59 and other record groups for additional information.

THE CENTRAL DECIMAL FILE, 1910-63 [ARC ID: 302021]

Between August 1910 and January 1963, the Department of State's Central File was arranged according to a decimal classification scheme.

1910-49

In its original form, the Decimal File is divided into four segments for these years: 1910-29, 1930-39, 1940-44, and 1945-49. You should begin your research with file numbers:

711.94 -- Japanese-United States Relations
894.00 -- Japanese Political Affairs
894.20 & 894.30 -- Japanese Military Affairs
894.50 -- Japanese Economic Affairs

All of these records are available on microfilm. Researchers can examine the film in our microfilm research room during regular business hours.

THE CENTRAL DECIMAL FILE, (1950-63 SEGMENTS) [ARC ID: 302021]

In 1950 the Department revised the Central File and the numerical designations for Japan change.

The File is divided into three segments for these years: 1950-54, 1955-59, and 1960-63. You should begin your research with file numbers:

611.94 -- Japanese-United States Relations
794.00 -- Japanese Political Affairs
794.5 -- Japanese Military Affairs
894.00 -- Japanese Economic Affairs

Records for the years 1950-59 are available on microfilm. Researchers can examine the film in our microfilm research room during regular business hours.

THE SUBJECT-NUMERIC FILE, 1963-73 [ARC ID: 580618]

In February 1963, the Department adopted a new filing scheme that is radically different from the preceding file. This filing scheme extended through July 1973. There are eight primary subject

classes and each primary class has between 3 and 19 secondary subject classes. Within each secondary class the records are arranged by country. The entire File is divided into four segments: 1963, 1964-66, 1967-69, and 1970-73. You may wish to begin your research with these subject classes: Economic (E); Finance (FN); Foreign Trade (FT); Labor & Manpower (LAB); Strategic Trade Control (STR); Defense (DEF); and Politics (POL). The following table provides the box numbers for these subject classes in each time segment.

	1963	1964-66	1967-69	1970-73
E	3385-86	731-733	631-633	757-759
FN	3437-38	879-880	782-784	911-914
FT	3481	1017-19	930-933	1080-1084
LAB	3585-86	1306-07	1254-60	1408-1409
STR	3641-43	1438-39	1412	1546
DEF	3728-29	1647-49	1561-1563	1752-1754
POL	3956-59	2373-86	2242-2251	2401-2411

<http://www.archives.gov/research/foreign-policy/state-dept/finding-aids/rg-59-japan.pdf>